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ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF CHANGED CLAIMS

Changed claims

[Received At the International Bureau on 18 March 2004 (18.03.04);

Original Claims 1 to 6 replaced by new claims 1-5 (2 pages)]

[Attorney Note: The International Preliminary Examination Report indicates the claims 1-3 were filed on August 10, 2004 and claims 4-5 were filed on January 14, 2005]

Claims

1. A leg support arrangement for an operating table with two leg supports (14), which leg supports are so connected with a base element (10) of an operating table that they are adjustable between a fundamental position in which they lie close to one another parallel to the longitudinal middle axis (20) of the operating table and a spread position in which they have a spacing from the longitudinal middle axis (20). wherein each leg support (14) is connected with the base element (10) by means of a parallelogram joint whose joint axes (36, 52, 44, 54) are oriented perpendicular to the plane of the base element (10), characterized in that each leg support (14) includes an upper leg support (16) and a lower leg support (18) each of which is movable by a folding joint about a horizontal axis (22; 60) relative to the base element (10) and are pivotal relative to one another, that each upper leg support (16) is connected with a connecting piece (24) by two parallelogram joint forming links (34, 50), to which connecting piece the first ends of the links (34, 50) are pivotally connected and which connecting piece is pivotally connected with the base element (10) for movement about the folding axis (22) for the upper leg support (16), and that the second ends of the links (34, 50) are pivotally connected to the upper leg support (16) onto which the folding joint (58) for the lower leg support (18) is formed.

2. A leg support arrangement according to claim 1 further characterized in that the upper leg support (16) includes a connecting member (42) and an upper leg plate (48) releasably connected with the connecting member (42), with the links (34, 50) being pivotally connected to the connecting member (42) and with the folding joint (58) for the lower leg support (18) being formed on the connecting member (42).

3. A leg support arrangement according to claim 1 or 2 further characterized in that the lower leg support (18) includes a lower leg strut (68) and a lower leg plate (70) releasably connectable with the lower leg strut.
4. A leg support arrangement according to claims 2 and 3, further characterized in that the lower leg strut (68) is connected by a spreading joint (66) with a joint arm (56) which is connected with the connecting member (42) by means of the folding joint (58) for the lower leg support (18), with the axis (72) of the spreading joint (66) being oriented perpendicular to the axis of the folding joint (60) and perpendicular to the plane of the lower leg support plate (70).
5. A leg support arrangement according to one of claims 1 to 4, further characterized in that the connecting piece (24) is insertable into a receiver (30) fixed to the operating table, which receiver is part of the folding joint for the upper leg support (16).